

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
NEWTON TRAFFIC COUNCIL REPORT
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2002

Present: Candace Havens (Chairman) Ald. Samuelson, Nina Wang (Acting Traffic Engineer) Sgt. Norcross (Police) Evelyn Addante (Planning)

Other Alderman Present: Ald. Lennon

#386-02 ALD. LENNON on behalf of MINA TAMBASCIA, 112 West Street, requesting a handicapped parking spot in front of 112 WEST STREET, Nonantum. (Ward 1)

ACTION: HELD 4-0

NOTE: Ms. Mina Tambascia had been in touch with Ald. Lennon on this problem. He explained to the Committee that Ms. Tambascio carries oxygen all the time and it would be a convenience for her to park in front of her home. The Committee felt it would be hard to justify this space for Ms. Tambascia as it would present a hardship for the neighborhood to limit parking. (112 West Street does have a driveway.) Ms. Havens said we are lacking criteria for informed decisions on this type of request. Ald. Samuelson told the Committee she was not in favor of a handicapped parking space in front of a residence if there is a driveway. She went on to say that a policy is needed. Traffic Engineer Wang also was not in favor of granting this petition. The Committee agreed to hold this item for six months until some policy could be worked out.

NOTE: This item does not require an ordinance and should not have been on the Traffic Council Agenda. The Committee voted NAN 4-0.

#387-02 JUSSI SAUKKONEN, 34 Priscilla Road requesting STOP SIGN on OLD COLONY ROAD at PRISCILLA ROAD. (Ref. #406-98) (Ward 7)

ACTION: DENIED 4-0

NOTE: Dr. Jussi Saukkonen was present and explained this item was presented in March of 1999 to the Traffic Council. He had petitioned for stop signs east and west bound on Priscilla Road and Old Colony Road. The item was approved but the ordinance was written with only the eastbound stop sign.

Nina Wang spoke regarding adding the westbound stop sign at Priscilla and Old Colony Roads. The intersection does not warrant a stop sign. She believes that a stop sign would be more appropriate at Mayflower and Old Colony Road.

Dr. Saukkonen feels that a stop sign at the original approved location would slow traffic. Ald. Samuelson explained that it is not appropriate to use a stop sign as a way to reduce speed. Ms. Wang suggested that there are many other ways to deal with the cars speeding, but there would need to be a new petition. Sgt. Norcross will improve speed enforcement in the area.

A motion to deny the item was made which was approved. Ald. Lennon suggested looking at reconfiguring the island as a traffic calming measure. This could possibly be done during reconstruction of that portion of Commonwealth Avenue. Ald. Samuelson and Ald. Lennon agreed to speak with Commissioner Rooney regarding this.

#307-02 CORRINA A. NIEHAUS, 11 Auburn Street, West Newton requesting a "Right on Red after Stop" sign at the corner of Washington Street and Auburn Street. (Ward 3)

ACTION: NAN 4-0

NOTE: This item should not have gone on docket and the Committee voted no action necessary.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalie Myers, Clerk